



TOP BULL—The grand champion and senior champion bull at the recent '81 Expo in Rapid City, S.D., was KBLI Domino 907. Lono Star Herford of Henrietta, Texas, and 71 Herford of Ringling, Okla., are the owners of this 3/8/79 son of CH Domino 439. (Staff photo by Jay Purchase)

Pilot program proposal will approve meat, poultry labels

An official of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's food safety and inspection service told CNS recently he expects FSIS to propose making permanent a pilot program just concluded under which in-plant inspectors were temporarily empowered to approve final labels for meat and poultry products.

Under that pilot program the inspectors could approve such labels if a preliminary label was previously approved by FSIS' label review office in Washington. The inspectors were also authorized to approve simple labels, such as those for meat products containing only one ingredient.

Robert Hibbert, FSIS director of standards and labeling said that an FSIS task force has recommended that the program be made permanent. However, he said he did not know if a proposal would be made to initially implement the program nationwide or to phase in the program beginning with just a few of USDA's inspection regions.

Joan Schwing, Hibbert's assistant, said the task force determined that the pilot program cut down on the red tape facing the meat industry in label approvals. It also cut down on the work load of the Washington label approval office, allowing personnel there to devote more time to approve more complex labels, she said.

Schwing said the task force recommended that a permanent in-plant label approval program, if adopted,

IBBA to support checkoff program

The International Brangus Breeders Assn. (IBBA) has joined the force with other organizations to support the \$0.25 voluntary beef checkoff plan.

Members of IBBA will voluntarily contribute \$0.25 per head to the Beef Industry Council (BIC) of the Meat Board on all Brangus cattle sold. The money is to be collected by either the seller or sales manager. Money should be remitted directly to the National Livestock and Meat Board with the completed Beef Promotion Reporting Form. These forms may be obtained from the National Livestock and Meat Board, 444 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60611. If a seller decides not to contribute he may become an exempt seller if he writes the BIC.

Cattle—highest exposure to rabies, recent report shows

Skunks are the primary source of rabies virus in North Dakota. They pose the largest threat of exposure to our domestic livestock and pets. From June 1, 1980 to May 31, 1981, of 296 skunks examined in the state for rabies, 87% or 258 had the rabies virus. There were 286 confirmed rabies cases in North Dakota during that period in wild animals with three bats, three wolves, one raccoon and one badger accounting for the remaining rabies cases.

"It is interesting to note that out of 82 confirmed rabies cases in domestic animals, 55 were among cattle," said Kurt Wohlgemuth, extension veterinarian from North Dakota State University, Fargo.

"This fact tells us two things. Cattle have a greater chance of being exposed to rabies than any other domestic animal and there is not a great incidence of rabies among dogs and cats as they are vaccinated far more consistently than any other domestic animal." Only seven dogs of 122 examined in the past year had rabies. Of 282 cats examined, only 13 had rabies.

"Animals, particularly farm animals such as dogs and cats, should be pro-

tected by making sure they are vaccinated for rabies," Wohlgemuth advised. "Dogs and cats can be vaccinated as early as four months of age. While there is a vaccine approved for use in cattle, I don't believe it is economical to use it."

How should we deal with an animal that we think may have been exposed to rabies such as a dog, especially a farm or hunting dog, that we either think or know has been exposed to a skunk?

The first thing to do is to find out if the dog was properly vaccinated. "Suppose a non-vaccinated dog was known to have been exposed to a skunk which was probably rabid. I think if we are to be humane to that dog and more importantly protect ourselves, there may not be any other alternative but to destroy that dog. If a person doesn't want to kill a dog that wasn't vaccinated, the exposed dog should be confined, quarantined and observed for up to six months because the rabies virus can be incubated in the animal that long. There have been confirmed cases where an animal was bitten six months ago and only now exhibits signs of rabies."

"If you have a dog that has been properly vaccinated and immunized against rabies and this dog has encountered a skunk (more likely a rabid skunk) the best thing to do would be to get advice as to what to do from the veterinarian who has vaccinated the dog. Some veterinarians may like to booster that vaccine following exposure to rabies although it may be best at times to destroy that dog because even a vaccinated dog could, under certain rare conditions come down with the rabies virus," Wohlgemuth explained.

Livestock owners should protect themselves from

being exposed to rabies. If a cow is affected by rabies (it cannot swallow or drink) it is of utmost importance that the livestock owner protect himself by not sticking his hand in the mouth of the cow. This practice should definitely be avoided to prevent unnecessary exposure to the rabies virus.

"Rabies appears to be a year-round problem in North Dakota," Wohlgemuth explained. "We have had a significant number of occurrences during the fall and winter, although there is a peak in incidence during the spring and summer."



SHOWMANSHIP—Bill Pindergrass, Blaineville, Tenn., won the national showmanship contest at the Centennial Herford Expo held recently at Rapid City, S.D. (Staff photo by Jay Purchase)

Comments

High interest rates may have ruled out any short-term improvement in the livestock economy, but at least there are glimmers of hope. The new law has agricultural benefits, and there are expectations of lower interest rates and a better business environment for stockmen.

The most sweeping tax cut in history became law on Aug. 13 when President Reagan signed the legislation. Several of the changes brought about by the new law will affect agriculture.

Depreciation will be greatly accelerated: Light trucks and autos will be depreciated in three years, equipment and single purpose farm structures in five years, and buildings in 15 years. Options are provided if a longer depreciation schedule would be advantageous. A limited amount of personal property purchases can be written off in the year of purchase rather than depreciated. The investment tax credit has been adjusted to fit the new faster depreciation schedule: Items with a three-year life get a 6% credit, those with a five-year life or more get 10%.

Changes in estate and gift taxes include increases in the estate tax exemption which will reach \$800,000 by 1987, unlimited transfer by gift or inheritance to a spouse, the annual exclusion from gift tax is raised to \$10,000, and a reduction in the maximum estate tax rate in steps from the current 70% to 50%.

Special agricultural use valuation for estates will include an increase in the allowable difference between fair market value and agricultural value to \$750,000 by 1983, up from the present \$500,000. Eligibility of property for the agricultural use valuation will be extended to cover situations where the land was farmed by a family member prior to the death of the owner.

The period in which IRS may recapture benefits if property is no longer used for agricultural purposes will be reduced from 15 to 10 years. And finally, imputed interest on sales of land between members of the same family will be limited to 7% if sales do not exceed \$500,000 in a calendar year.

The livestock economy is not yet home free. It will be 1982 before significant tax breaks take effect—and sustained tight money may yet prove more harmful to ranching and feeding than it has seemed to so far. Nevertheless, the new tax law could mean better management and improved efficiency for a sizable segment of the U.S. cattle industry.

The changes recommended by the subcommittee will be effective Jan. 1, 1982. The changes will be effective Jan. 1, 1982. The changes will be effective Jan. 1, 1982.

P.I. livestock expo entry deadline near

Plans are underway for this year's Pacific International Livestock Exposition in Portland, Ore. Over 125,000 visitors are expected to tour the Oct. 10-17 exposition where an estimated 3,000 head of livestock will be shown.

According to General Manager Dick Rathbun, this year's P.I. will feature new exhibitors, entertainment, advertising and "lots of enthusiasm."

An animated "Meet Me At The P.I." theme is backed by a song and lots of activity. Over \$100,000 in premiums will be awarded over eight days of American Horse Show Assn. events, an exciting mix of college and R.C.A. pro-rodeo action, and virtually continuous judging of almost all recognized breeds of livestock, plus rabbits, poultry, pigeons, and waterfowl. A new highlight event this year is dogs working sheep over an obstacle course by voice and hand signals.

The show also features hundreds of agricultural exhibits, guided tours of the livestock barns, and a tote barnyard where over 30,000 kids visited myriad of baby animals last year.

The P.I. will host special guest and Dallas Cowboy pro-football great, Walt Garrison; renowned entertainer Merle Haggard; "The Butcher"; the Great Northwest Chili Cook-off competition; a Lone Star Saloon with live country western music and dancing; and special religious services.

A Cattlemen's Day will be hosted by the P.I. and Oregon Cattlemen's Assn. President Ray French in honor of those attending the regional Cattlemen's Association meetings. Bill Swan, president of the National Cattlemen's Assn. will be a featured guest.

The entry deadline for this year's Pacific International is Sept. 9. For additional entry information contact Dick Rathbun at 603/286-8301.



BEEF PRICE DOWN—The mid-August retail beef price average on five cuts of beef was \$0.01 per lb. lower than a month earlier, according to a 10-city supermarket survey conducted by the National Cattlemen's Assn., reports CNS. The survey showed that the average beef price was \$2.49 per lb. on Aug. 13 compared with \$2.50 per lb. on July 9.

Brucellosis classification:

Subcommittee calls for substantial changes

A U.S. Animal Health Assn. (USAHA) subcommittee has recommended substantial changes in the rules governing the brucellosis state classification system, a USDA official told CNS.

That classification system, unveiled in May, is scheduled to take effect Jan. 1. Under that system, states would be placed into one of three categories—A, B or C—depending on the incidence of brucellosis, a disease that attacks the reproductive system of cattle, causing spontaneous abortion and reduced fertility.

Under the original provisions of the classification system, cattle moved into a "B" state would have to be tested for brucellosis once before movement and once after movement.

The changes recommended by the subcommittee will be effective Jan. 1, 1982. The changes will be effective Jan. 1, 1982. The changes will be effective Jan. 1, 1982.

WESTERN LIVESTOCK JOURNAL

News • Trends • Sales • Shows • Markets

August 31, 1981

Western Edition

Vol. 58, No. 44

Canadian cattle producers unite to limit U.S. imports

Imports of U.S. cattle into Ontario, Canada, have drastically increased this year and Canadian livestock operators and cow/calf producers have united in an effort to limit the imports, according to Canadian cattle industry sources.

Reports CNS, from Jan. 1 to Aug. 9 imports of U.S. slaughter cattle, primarily into Ontario, Canada's largest importer of U.S. cattle, have increased to 111,352 head from 18,401 last year, according to figures provided by Con-Fax, a cattle marketing analysis firm in Toronto.

"We saw that our cattle industry was going to get into a very deep and grim situation," said Jim Harkness, feedlot operator and spokesman for the Ontario Cattlemen's Action Committee in Harrison, a splinter group of the Ontario Cattlemen's Assn. (OCA).

Harkness said the action committee is not only focusing on limiting imports, but is opting for a supply management system that includes various marketing and price control techniques.

The committee's main objection is that, until recently, U.S. slaughter cattle prices were comparable to Ontario's prices. Harkness said, and packers have been importing at a disadvantage.

Harkness said that 17.7% of the cattle slaughtered in Ontario during the first six months of 1980 were U.S. cattle. Whether it be cattle, automobiles or refrigerators, 17.7% of a product from the outside will disrupt any market," he said.

USDA hopeful grading proposal will clear within dept. by Sept. 1

USDA is hopeful its new beef grading proposal can be cleared within the department as early as Sept. 1, CNS learned recently in an interview with the administrator of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS).

AMS Administrator Mildred Thymian and members of the AMS staff present at the interview declined to disclose any details of the proposal. However, Thymian said USDA had considered the views of

cattle producer groups and related organizations in developing the proposal.

She said she viewed beef grades as a marketing tool for cattlemen to "give them something to shoot for" and also as an aid to allowing them a reasonable return on their investment. However, Thymian said that grades should also serve as a buying tool for the consumer.

She said one of the reasons USDA had been able to act relatively quickly

in developing a grading proposal was the amount of background information and research that had been put into the subject of grading by the cattle industry and others.

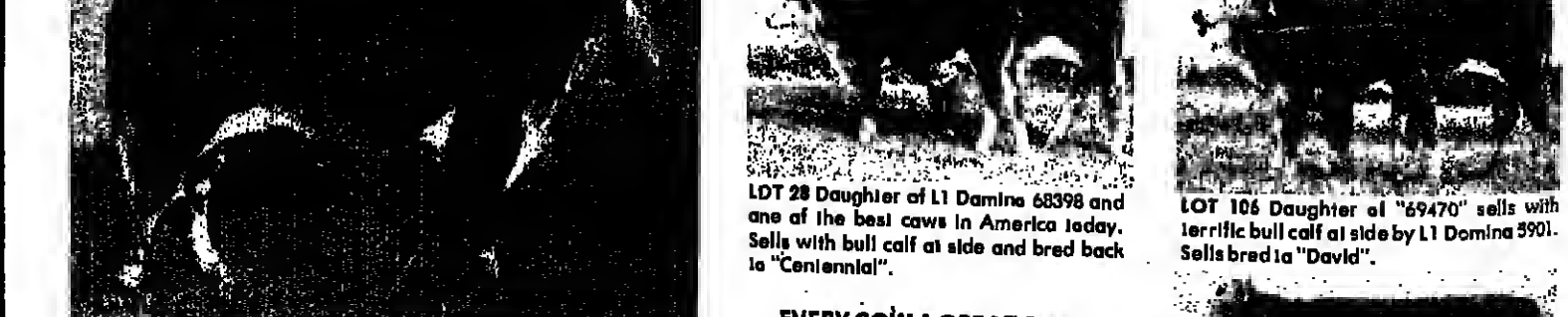
Responsibility for administering U.S. food quality grades was recently transferred from USDA's Food Safety and Quality Service, formerly the Food Safety and Quality Service, to the AMS.

Once the proposal has (Continued on page 7)

Parcel Herefords PRIME-TIME SALE

Mon., Sept. 7 A dispersal of the entire spring-calving cowherd. the sale that's perfectly-timed for the future

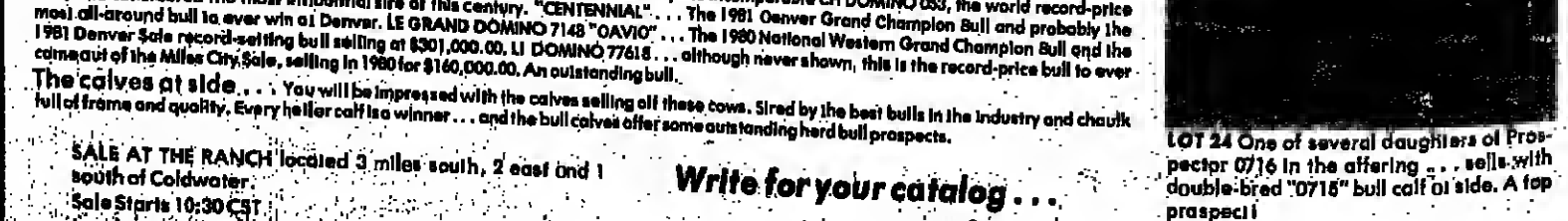
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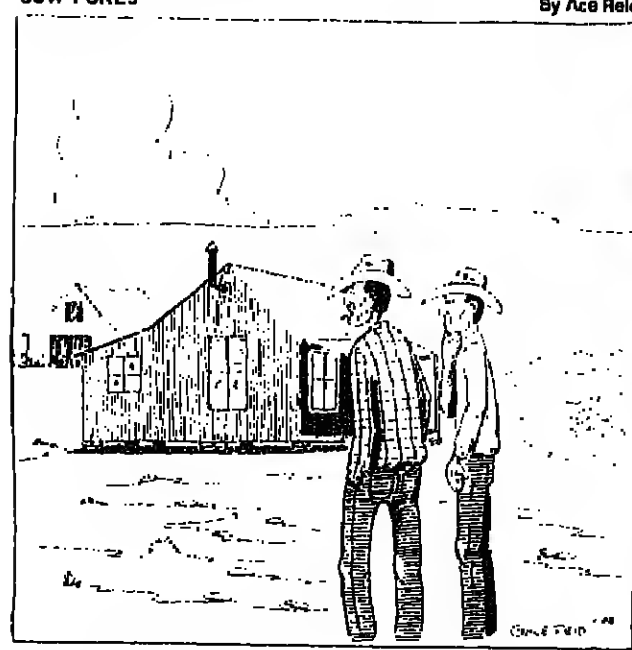
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West Germany seeks "laissez-faire" policy

West Germany will try to persuade other European Economic Community countries to agree to a more "laissez-faire" EEC agricultural policy when negotiations on policy reform resume this fall, West German Secretary for Agriculture Georg Gallus said recently, reports UCN.

In a radio interview, Gallus conceded it is doubtful West Germany can influence EEC agricultural policy to include "greater scope for market forces."

The widely differing attitudes held by France

APPOINTED — The National Cattlemen's Assn. has announced the appointment of Kelli Dolecek as assistant manager of special services. The national trade association represents some 300,000 professional cattlemen, including members of 72 affiliated state cattle and national breed organizations.

Coming Events

Aug. 28-Sept. 7—Evergreen State Fair, Monroe, Wash.
Aug. 30-Sept. 7—Oregon State Fair, Salem, Ore.
Aug. 31—Oregon State Fair, Shinnston, Salem, Ore.
Sept. 1-8—Western Idaho Fair, Boise, Idaho
Sept. 3—Limousin Show at Western Idaho State Fair, Boise, Idaho
Sept. 4—Oregon State Fair, Chelona Show, Salem, Ore.
Sept. 4—Oregon State Fair, Herford Show, Salem, Ore.
Sept. 4—Limousin Show at the Evergreen State Fair, Monroe, Wash.
Sept. 4—Oregon State Fair, Angus Show, Salem, Ore.
Sept. 7-12—Eastern Idaho State Fair, Blackfoot, Idaho
Sept. 7—Oregon State Fair Santa Gertrudis Show, Salem, Ore.
Sept. 10—Limousin Show at Eastern Idaho State Fair, Blackfoot, Idaho

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Livestock assns. file suit to halt MX preliminary plan

The Nevada Cattlemen's Assn. today filed suit to put an immediate halt to preliminary MX planning activities of the Air Force in Nevada and Utah. In a complaint filed in the United States District Court in Salt Lake City, the Nevada cattlemen, joined in the suit by the Utah Cattlemen's Assn. and the Wool Growers Assn. of Nevada and Utah, charged Secretary of Interior James G. Watt and Director Robert F. Burford of the Bureau of Land Management with acting without legal authority when they executed a

cooperative agreement with the Air Force on May 16, 1981. The agreement authorized the Air Force to conduct various tests on the public lands in the Great Basin in preparation for the selection of deployment sites for the 200 MX missiles and 4600 shelters.

The complaint alleges that the drilling of wells, trenching, testing the ground with explosives, borings, digging of test pits, cone penetration tests and the use of off-road vehicles will destroy the fragile native desert vegetation and cause the spread of the

deadly weed Halogeton glomeratus throughout the Great Basin, posing a clear and present danger to cattle and sheep.

It also charges that the Interior Department failed to hold public hearings before signing the cooperative agreement with the Air Force and, in so doing, violated the constitutional rights of cattle ranchers and sheep ranchers to due process of law.

Finally, it is alleged that the numerous activities of the Air Force, authorized by the Interior Department, constitute a major federal

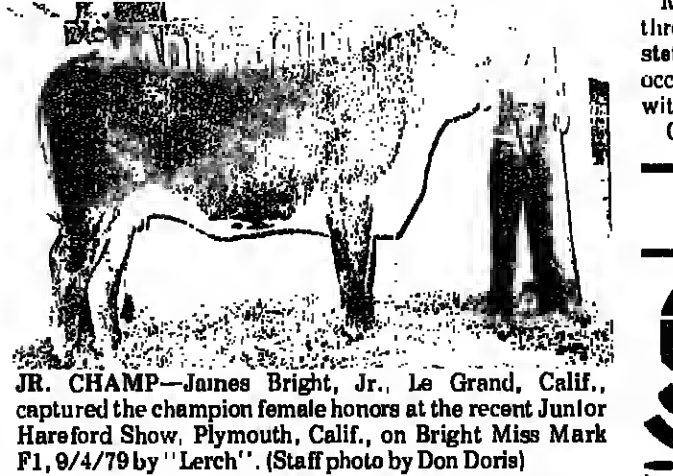
Court rules FDA can dictate labels

The Food and Drug Administration has the authority to require special labels on substitute foods made to resemble the foods they replace, a federal appeals court ruled recently.

"After carefully reviewing the (Food, Drug and Cosmetic) Act, we have found no provision which narrows or limits the discretion of the FDA to investigate, enforce or prosecute alleged violations of the act's regulations," a three-judge panel of the Eighth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled, reports UPI.

The ruling was on an appeal by the National Milk Producers Federation and other dairy associations objecting to an FDA regulation that requires qualifying foods to be labeled "substitute" rather than "imitation."

The regulation requires any nutritionally inferior



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action having serious impacts on the environment and that a programmatic environmental impact statement must be prepared and filed.

In announcing the first of a series of legal challenges to the proposed MX deployment in the Great Basin, E.E. Eyre, president of the Nevada Cattlemen's Assn., charged that the spread of Halogeton, "poses a clear, direct and deadly threat to the continued economic viability of the livestock industries in the two states. Everywhere the Air Force and its contractors

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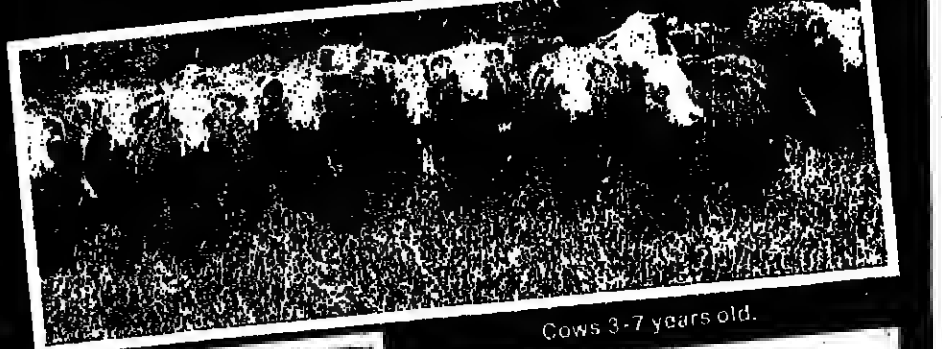
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Ranch Manager

National Food Safety Meeting

A national seminar on participation by the United States in the Codex Alimentarius Commission will be held Sept. 15 and 16 at the USDA headquarters building in Washington, D.C.

The Codex commission works to develop international food standards that will promote worldwide food safety and international trade in food products, according to Eddie F. Kimbrell, associate deputy administrator of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service. According to Kimbrell, the purpose of the meeting is to assess the past and future role of the U.S. in the commission.

National Golden Spur Award

The National Golden Spur Award weekend Sept. 18-19 in Lubbock, Texas, is expected to draw more than 3,000 visitors to the main events—a Livestock and Money Symposium, the National Golden Spur Award and Prairie Party and Ranch Day.

The 1981 events also will include a private collector's show of Western art, an afternoon for Junior Wranglers, and food Western style—including a cowboy breakfast—by Texas' famous Perini Ranch Catering.

Tickets for the National Golden Spur Award and Prairie Party, for the Livestock and Money Symposium and for a cowboy breakfast on Ranch Day may be obtained from the Ranching Heritage Assn. To inquire or purchase tickets write: National Golden Spur Award, Ranching Heritage Assn., P.O. Box 4498, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

Oregon Limousin Breeders

The first display of Limousin cattle in the state of Oregon will be held through Sept. 2 at the Oregon State Fairgrounds, the newly formed Oregon Limousin Breeders Org. has announced.

A group of seven registered Limousin cattle from throughout the state will represent the breed. The display will include animals of various ages; a cow/calf pair, a yearling heifer, a yearling bull, a mature bull, and two young cows. There will be an information booth and Limousin breeders from throughout Oregon will be on hand to provide information.

The Oregon Limousin Breeders association will also host a sale of registered Limousin cattle (the first in the state) at Hermiston Northwest Livestock Auction Yards on Nov. 7.

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Cowden Educational Fund

The Cowden Educational Fund, designed to perpetuate the ideals and goals of E. Ray Cowden, has been established at John C. Lincoln Hospital by an initial contribution from Valley National Bank, Phoenix, Ariz. Cowden, who recently celebrated his 90th birthday, is a long-time Arizonan cattleman and participant in civic affairs.

Lamb Marketing Workshop

Sheep producers from California, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, and Nevada will meet Sept. 15-17 in Sacramento, Calif., to discuss marketing problems, trends, and opportunities in their industry.

Further information about the Western Lamb Marketing Workshop can be obtained by contacting the California Wool Growers' Assn. 916/482-0680, California Farm Bureau Federation 916/924-4090, or University of California Cooperative Extension 916/782-1278.

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U.S. leads in potential
to increase agriculture

U.S. potential to increase farm production and exports surpasses that of all other agricultural exporting countries, an agricultural economist said recently, reports CNS.

John Mitchell, an agricultural economist from Michigan State University, sold export competition will remain strong, but U.S. competitors will not increase exports enough during the next five years to displace a large amount of U.S. grain.

Mitchell told a U.S. Feed Grains Council meeting the U.S. has surprisingly continued to expand crop acreage the past two to three years, implying that total acreage expansion has not peaked as had been widely thought, Mitchell said.

Expanded acreage will come through increased double-cropping and conversion of rangeland to crop production. Resulting higher grain export availability will be useful in meeting the market potential of middle income developing countries such as Mexico, South Korea, Taiwan and several Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. The trend to import food grains rather than food grains that began in the 1970s will continue into the 1980s, he said.

Red Meat exports; higher next year

Nicaragua's 1982 red meat exports are expected to be 16.25 million tons, compared with the projection of 14.77 million for 1981, the U.S. agricultural attaché in Guatemala said, reports CNS.

The attaché said in a recent report that red meat exports in 1982, the attaché said.

Basing his forecasts on an econometric model, Mitchell predicted U.S. average farm corn prices will remain fairly depressed at about \$3.20 per bushel until the 1983-84 market year (July-June), and then escalate to an average on-farm price of \$4.42 per bushel in 1985-86. He projected U.S. corn exports to expand to 85.3 million tons by 1985-86 from a projected 71.7 million tons in 1981-82.

He said wheat prices will recover in 1982-83 to \$4.12 per bushel, average farm price, from a projected \$3.58 per bushel in 1981-82. By 1986, on-farm wheat prices will average \$5.52 per bushel.

Soybean prices will escalate rapidly beginning in 1983-84, and by 1985 the average on-farm price will reach \$10.43 per bushel. U.S. soybean exports by 1985 will reach 35.5 million tons, but South American soybean exports will remain fairly stable in the next five years. He projected 1981-82 U.S. soybean exports at 30.5 million tons.

Mitchell cautioned the audience about China's unknown market potential. Dramatic changes in China's buying habits would alter the current forecasts, but scarce data makes it virtually impossible to predict Chinese demand.

British Columbia
Yearling Panorama Week 1981
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Monday, September 21

10:00 a.m.—Sale Okanagan Felle Stockyards, Okanagan and Princeton Area Ranches
3:00 p.m.—Sale Glenrose Ranches and Winfield Ranches, Kelowna

Tuesday, September 22

10:30 a.m.—Kamloops Stockyards, Kamloops/Catcha Creek, and North River Area Ranches

Wednesday, September 23: Nicole Valley Area

11:00 a.m.—Quilchena Cattle Co. Ranch
1:30 p.m.—Douglas Lake Cattle Co. Sale
1:30 p.m.—Douglas Lake Cattle Co. Sale.
5:00 p.m.—Reception, Kamloops Stockyards

Thursday, September 24

10:30 a.m.—Sale at Williams Lake Stockyards, Cariboo Area Ranches

Friday, September 25

10:30 a.m.—Basque Ranch, Ashcroft
1:00 p.m.—Indian Gardens Ranch, Savona

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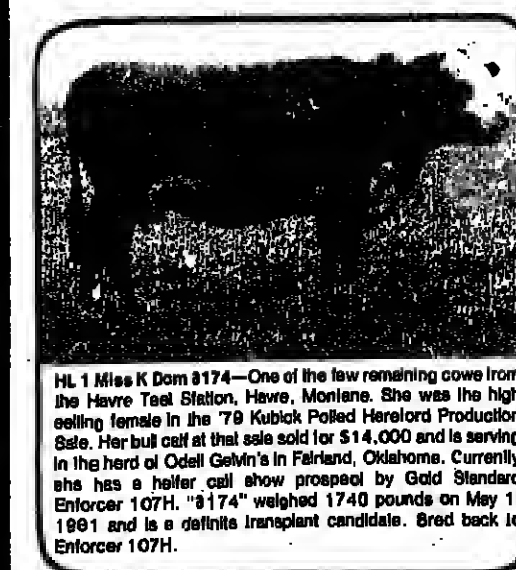
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